



Iroquois Falls Public School

October 2018 Newsletter

From the Principal's Desk

September and October certainly did fly quickly by! Your child(ren) and their teachers have been very busy setting the stage for a rich year of learning. By now, building and classroom procedures are well-ingrained, and students are deep into the literacy, math, science, and social studies content they will learn this year. Students have begun taking some of their learning outside in our newly created outdoor classroom.

I need to thank the staff for their dedication to making the school start up as smooth as possible despite a few bumps in the road. I would like to thank the volunteers (Dave, Debby, and Michelle) for their work on the Welcome Back BBQ. This event always helps bring our school community together as we start off the year creating a sense of belonging. The burgers and hot dogs were pretty tasty too! As far as extracurricular activities go, the students have enjoyed Cross-Country Running and Science Olympics, and are now busy practicing for the upcoming volleyball season. We also participated in The Annual Terry Fox Walk in addition to hosting a Terry Fox Pie-in-the-Face Fundraiser, which raised over \$650 for the Terry Fox Foundation.

As we look forward to the month of November, the action continues. Students have a long weekend near the end of November, picture retake day, spirit days, and a Remembrance Day ceremony to look forward to. By the way, we do a lot of learning here too! Student progress reports will be sent home on November 16th, which will provide you with information about some of the formative and summative assessments that have occurred, including learning ways to monitor and measure student success as we move forward. The results allow us to plan appropriately to meet the needs of the students and to ensure academic growth.

With October almost behind us, the following items contained within the newsletter are some of the most important information you should be aware of, which was sent home in our Student/Parent Handbook.

As always, I invite you to follow the Iroquois Falls Public School Principal Blog, either by sending me an email at rodger.mineault@dsb1.ca or by going to <https://ifpsprincipal.wordpress.com/> and clicking follow.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mineault

Principal

Coffee with the Principal

I am excited to announce that I will begin hosting a *Coffee with the Principal* every second Tuesday morning for the month of November and December. This will take place from 8 AM to 8:30 AM in the foyer. I'll bring the coffee and the listening ears, you bring your thoughts, questions, and ideas. I look forward to talking with you.

Dates:

November 6th
November 20th
December 4th
December 18th



INFORMATION ITEMS:

SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE

- 8:30-8:50 a.m. Breakfast Club
- 8:30 a.m. Supervision Begins
- 8:50 a.m. Student Entry
- 9:00 a.m. Morning Announcements
- 10:30-11:10 a.m. Recess & Nutrition Break
- 12:50-1:30 p.m. Recess & Lunch
- 3:10 p.m. Dismissal



PLEASE REMEMBER WE DO NOT HAVE SUPERVISION FOR STUDENTS BEFORE 8:30 A.M.

FOOD ALLERGY REMINDER

This is a reminder that some students that share the same lunch area as your child have severe allergies to nuts, peanuts, fish and seafood. Please do not include any food products containing nuts, peanuts, fish and seafood in your child's lunch. We appreciate the care that you will take in abiding by this request.



BREAKFAST PROGRAM - Now accepting DONATIONS!



IFPS has started up the breakfast program, which runs Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. All students are welcome to attend. The Canadian Red Cross funds 15% of the total cost of this program, therefore the school graciously accepts donations. If you would like to make a donation, please see Mrs. Boucher in the main office.

MILK PROGRAM

We will be starting-up our milk program again this year. White milk, chocolate milk and cheese strings are available for \$1.00 per item. Students will be able to purchase these items at school during nutrition break and lunch.



SUBWAY LUNCHES

Our subway lunch program has resumed again this year. Forms will be sent home for each subway day.



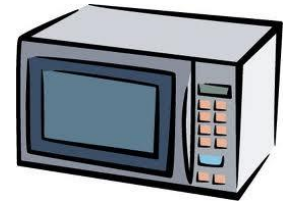
SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council is up and running! Families are always welcome to attend monthly council meetings. The next meeting is October 20th, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.



MICROWAVES IN OUR LUNCH ROOMS

A reminder to parents that microwaves are available in all lunch areas. You have the option of sending healthy hot lunches to school. Grade 1-6 students will be responsible to heat up their own lunches so please give your child instructions on microwave use if they have not used one before. We will be reminding the Grade 1-6 students that this is a privilege and if they are not using it appropriately, then this privilege will be removed for that student. For JK-SK Grade 1, teachers or educational assistants that supervise during snack and lunch time will be heating up the lunches.



Please ensure that the food is in microwaveable containers and that you provide the necessary utensils. Also, it is important to recognize that snack/lunch is only 20 minutes in length so we ask that you send food that only requires short heating periods as many students will want to use the microwaves.

END OF DAY ROUTINE

All bus students will exit through the main entrance. All grade 4-6 students who are walking or being picked up will exit through the side door at the end of their hallway. If they are walking and live on the south side of the school, they will through the back of the school to avoid the traffic at the front of the school. Grade 1-3 students who are being picked up will exit through the main entrance. Grade 1-3 students who are walkers will exit through the entrance by the small gym or the entrance by the lunchroom depending on where they live. Again this is for their safety to avoid the traffic in front of the school. Students are not allowed at their locker before the morning bell at 8:50 a.m. or after the 3:10 bell. Parents are asked to remain in the foyer. If you would like to meet with a teacher or go to another area of the school, please check in at the office. Again, this is to ensure the safety of all our students.



Before and After School Programs

Tanie's Tots Child Care Services operates a Before and After School Programs for children up to 12 years of age at this school, located IFPS.

The **Before School Program** operates from 7:00 a.m. until school start.

The **After School Program** begins once school is dismissed and goes until 5:30 p.m. Children participate in a variety of recreational and educational opportunities while participating in the program.

After School Program for children in Full Day Kindergarten

The After School Programs, at this school, follows the Kindergarten curriculum based on children learning through play.

Outdoor Classroom at IFPS

Iroquois Falls Public School is proud to announce that we have an “Outdoor Classroom”.

When people think about outdoor classrooms, they often think about the teaching of science by examining the world around us. However, outdoor classrooms are more than just a science lesson, in fact they are great spaces for teaching math, reading, social studies, and art. With a little creativity, teachers can bring to life a wealth of learning opportunities over a wide-range of subjects; by providing students with authentic learning tasks. In these spaces, students are able to use their own creativity and problem-solving skills to explore and examine a multitude of subject areas.

Stay tuned for more learning opportunities which will take place in this space.



Don't Walk in the Hallway Program at IFPS

By nurturing an innate joy for movement in the early years of a child's life can build confidence and competence in a child that will motivate them to be active throughout their lifespan. Just like learning to count, say their alphabet, or read, children need to practice fundamental movement skills in order to be physically fit. Studies have shown that moderate to vigorous physical activity improves a person's alertness and attention, while preparing nerve cells to bind to one another and increase blood vessel development in the brain (Ontario Physical and Health Education Association – OPHEA). With these comments in mind, this year at Iroquois Falls Public School we have implemented the “Don't Walk in the Hallway Program”.

The “Don't Walk in the Hallway Program” is a program that allows students to hop, jump, twist, and move from shape to shape on a variety of shapes located on the floor. Opposite of the “traditional” way students move in the hallways, this movement break allows students to release a little energy while getting the blood flowing as they move throughout the halls. Students are still expected to move from class to class or location to location in an orderly fashion, however they can have a little fun while being allowed to "Get Moving"!

Studies have shown that this type of movement has actually lead to students being more organized as they go down the hallways, not to mention the health benefits they will receive. Early in the school year, we are seeing similar evidence!



**STAY TUNED FOR NOVEMBER'S NEWLETTER
WHICH WILL BE SENT HOME NOVEMBER 4TH**